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Obama Administration Announces Additional \$13,971,000 for Local Energy Efficiency Improvements in Montana

Block Grants to Support Jobs, Cut Energy Bills, and Increase Energy Independence

WASHINGTON – Vice President Joe Biden and Energy Secretary Steven Chu today announced plans to invest \$3.2 billion in energy efficiency and conservation projects in U.S. cities, counties, states, territories, and Native American tribes. This includes \$13,971,000 for state, county and city efforts in Montana. A detailed breakdown is below.

Today's announcement builds on an investment of \$52,398,777 in Montana weatherization and energy funding announced by the Administration on March 12th and detailed at <u>energy.gov/recovery</u>.

"These investments will save taxpayer dollars and create jobs in communities around the country," said Vice President Biden. "Local leaders will have the flexibility in how they put these resources to work – but we will hold them accountable for making the investments quickly and wisely to spur the local economy and cut energy use."

The Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant program, funded by President Obama's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, will provide formula grants for projects that reduce total energy use and fossil fuel emissions, and improve energy efficiency.

The funding will support energy audits and energy efficiency retrofits in residential and commercial buildings, the development and implementation of advanced building codes and inspections, and the creation of financial incentive programs for energy efficiency improvements. Other activities eligible for use of grant funds include transportation programs that conserve energy, projects to reduce and capture methane and other greenhouse gas emissions from landfills, renewable energy installations on

government buildings, energy efficient traffic signals and street lights, deployment of Combined Heat and Power and district heating and cooling systems, and others.

To ensure accountability, the Department of Energy will provide guidance to and require grant recipients to report on the number of jobs created or retained, energy saved, renewable energy capacity installed, greenhouse gas emissions reduced, and funds leveraged. Funding is based on a formula that accounts for population and energy use.

"The Block Grants are a major investment in energy solutions that will strengthen America's economy and create jobs at the local level," said Secretary Chu. "The funding will be used for the cheapest, cleanest and most reliable energy technologies we have – energy efficiency and conservation – which can be deployed immediately. The grants also empower local communities to make strategic investments to meet the nation's long term clean energy and climate goals."

Funding for state, city, and county governments in the state includes:

MT	Montana Total Sum City, County, and SEO Allocations	All	\$13,971,000
MT	Montana	State Energy Office	\$9,593,500
MT	Anaconda-Deer Lodge	City	\$50,000
MT	Billings	City	\$1,003,000
MT	Bozeman	City	\$175,500
MT	Butte-Silver Bow	City	\$138,700
MT	Great Falls	City	\$570,100
MT	Havre	City	\$50,000
MT	Helena	City	\$138,600
MT	Kalispell	City	\$96,700
MT	Miles City	City	\$50,000
MT	Missoula	City	\$680,400
MT	Cascade	County	\$94,400
MT	Flathead	County	\$274,200
MT	Gallatin	County	\$198,700
MT	Lake	County	\$119,500
MT	Lewis and Clark	County	\$120,400
MT	Lincoln	County	\$80,000
MT	Missoula	County	\$151,000
MT	Park	County	\$67,100
MT	Ravalli	County	\$167,400
MT	Yellowstone	County	\$151,800

In addition, today's announcement includes funding for the following Tribal governments in the state:

	Name	Allocation
MT	Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the Fort Peck Indian Reservation, Montana	\$262,500
MT	Blackfeet Tribe of the Blackfeet Indian Reservation of Montana	\$335,900
MT	Chippewa-Cree Indians of the Rocky Boy's Reservation, Montana	\$137,500
MT	Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation, Montana	\$283,400
MT	Crow Tribe of Montana	\$261,200
MT	Fort Belknap Indian Community of the Fort Belknap Reservation of Montana	\$122,100
МТ	Northern Cheyenne Tribe of the Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation, Montana	\$177,000

(NOTE: If a Tribal government spans more than one state, the number above reflects the allocation for the Tribal government as a whole.)

More information on the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program is available on http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/wip/block_grants.cfm.